



Remotely piloted vehicles (A) flew into the Bekaa Valley, beaming signals that fooled the Syrians into believing the tiny plastic craft were Israeli jets. The Syrians turned on surface-to-air radars, allowing the RPVs to "fingerprint" the radar. These data were relayed to an E-2C command plane (B) so jammers on Israeli planes could be set to the right frequencies. As Israeli aircraft

neared, the E-2C called for an artillery barrage to harass ground crews (C) and rockets to disperse aluminum chaff that prevented the radars from locking on the attacking planes (D). F-4 Phantom jets outfitted with Wild Weasel jammers and missile-diverting flares (E) fired missiles that home in on radar signals or on reflected light from the RPVs' laser target designa-

tors. Without their radar, the SAM launchers were "blind" and could be destroyed by conventional bombs dropped from F-16s (F). When Syria sent up its MIGs to defend the surface-to-air missile batteries, the E-2C command plane directed Israeli F-15s and F-16s to a point where they could fire long-range missiles before the Syrians detected them.